BACKGROUND AND RESOURCES:
CALIFORNIA CHARITIES REGULATION

There is a keen public interest in preventing misuse of charitable contributions. California's "Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act" regulates those raising and receiving charitable contributions. The "Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004" (SB 1262, Chapter 919) tightened Charitable Purposes Act requirements for charitable organization administration and fundraising.

The Charitable Purposes Act rules cover California public benefit corporations, unincorporated associations, and trustee entities. They may include similar foreign corporations doing business or holding property in California. Generally, an organization is subject to the registration and reporting requirements of the Charitable Purposes Act if it is a California nonprofit public benefit corporation or is tax exempt under Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3), and not exempt from reporting under Government Code § 12583. Most educational institutions, hospitals, cemeteries, and religious organizations are exempt from Supervision of Trustees Act requirements.

Key new Charitable Purposes Act requirements affect executive compensation, fund-raising practices and documentation. Charities with over $2 million of revenues (excluding grants and service-contract funds a governmental entity requires to be accounted for) have new audit requirements. Charities required to have audits must also establish an audit committee whose members have no material financial interest in any entity doing business with the charity.

Organizations or persons that receive or raise charitable contributions are likely to be subject to the Charitable Purposes Act. A Vendor on Los Angeles County contracts must determine if it is subject to the Charitable Purposes Act and certify either that:

- It is not presently subject to the Act, but will comply if later activities make it subject, or,
- If subject, it is currently in compliance.

RESOURCES

The following references to resources are offered to assist Vendors who engage in charitable contributions activities. Each Vendor, however, is ultimately responsible to research and determine its own legal obligations and properly complete its compliance certification (Exhibit 20).

In California, supervision of charities is the responsibility of the Attorney General, whose website, **http://oag.ca.gov/**, contains much information helpful to regulated charitable organizations.

1.   LAWS AFFECTING NONPROFITS

The "Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act" is found at California Government Code §§ 12580 through 12599.7. Implementing regulations are found at Title 11, California Code of Regulations, §§ 300 through 312. In California, charitable solicitations ("advertising") are governed by Business & Professions Code §§ 17510 through 17510.95. Regulation of nonprofit corporations is found at Title 11, California Code of Regulations, §§ 999.1 through 999.5. (Amended regulations are pending.) Links to all of these rules are at: **http://oag.ca.gov/charities/laws.**

BACKGROUND AND RESOURCES:
CALIFORNIA CHARITIES REGULATION

2.   SUPPORT FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Several organizations offer both complimentary and fee-based assistance to nonprofits, including in Los Angeles, the Center for Nonprofit Management, 606 S. Olive St #2450, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 623-7080 **http://www.cnmsocal.org/**., and statewide, the California Association of Nonprofits, **http://calnonprofits.org/**.   Both organizations' websites offer information about how to establish and manage a charitable organization.

The above information, including the organizations listed, provided under this sub-section of this Appendix D is for informational purposes only. Nothing contained in this sub-section shall be construed as an endorsement by the County of Los Angeles of such organization.